

MORPHOMETRICS OF THE WHITE-FACED ROBIN

In November 1990, the Australian Bird Study Association organized a campout for bird banders to establish a co-operative bird banding station at Iron Range National Park, Cape Yorke, Queensland. The birds of this remote region have rarely been studied and little information has been published.

The Australian subspecies of the White-faced Robin *Tregellasia leucops albigularis* was among the birds most commonly caught and banded during the course of the week-long campout, and 186 individuals were captured in mist-nets scattered throughout approximately 50 hectares of tropical lowland rainforest. Of these, 65 were recorded as adult birds in breeding condition and positively sexed by cloacal examination (40 male and 25 female). Their weights and measurements are recorded in the following table.

It appears, from this small sample, that adult White-faced Robins can be sexed on wing span and wing length measurements. Birds with a wingspan and wing length greater than 239 mm and 79 mm respectively will be male. Those with wingspan and wing length of less than 232 mm and 74 mm respectively will be female. Additional data will be required to confirm that an overlap does not exist in the wingspan measurement and that there is an overlap between the sexes in wing length measurements.

	Sex	No.	Range	Mean	SD
Weight (g)	M	37	13.0-18.3	15.9	1.1
	F	21	12.5-17.3	13.8	1.3
Head/Bill (mm)	M	24	32.8-36.1	35.1	0.8
	F	19	32.1-34.2	33.0	0.5
Wing Span (mm)	M	34	235-253	244.2	5.2
	F	22	214-234	227.2	4.9
Wing Length (mm)	M	40	74-82	78.6	1.9
	F	25	69-76	72.2	1.6
Tail Length (mm)	M	35	47-54	50.3	1.4
	F	22	44-54	46.7	1.9
Total Length (mm)	M	7	133-145	139.0	3.4
	F	4	128-142	134.5	5.0
Tarsus Length (mm)	M	8	19.0-21.5	20.5	0.9
	F	3	18.8-20.2	19.5	0.6

We acknowledge the contribution made by the 18 banders who participated in the campout and the co-operation and assistance provided by the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme.

J. W. Hardy

RMB 6121 Tapley Road, Lisarow, NSW 2250

F. W. van Gessel

1138 Priestman Avenue, Umina, NSW 2257

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RECOVERY ROUND-UP

This section is prepared with the co-operation of the Secretary, Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes, Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service. The recoveries are only a selection of the thousands received each year; they are not a complete list and should not be analysed in full or part without prior consent of the banders concerned. Longevity and distance records refer to the ABBBS unless otherwise stated. The distance is the shortest distance in kilometres along the direct line joining the place of banding and recovery; the compass direction refers to the same direct line. (There is no implication regarding the distance flown or the route followed by the bird). Where available ABBBS age codes have been included in the banding data.

Recovery or longevity items may be submitted directly to me whereupon their merits for inclusion will be considered.

Hon. Editor.

Cattle Egret *Ardeola ibis*

- (a) 100-71950, Nestling banded by D. J. Geering at Lawrence, NSW on 5 Jan. 89. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at: (1) Bairnsdale, Vic., from 1 June 89 to 17 Aug. 89, 1 051 km SW. (2) banding site on 27 Dec. 89. (3) Bairnsdale, Vic. from 18 June 90 to 26 Aug. 90, 1 051 km SW. (4) various locations in Clarence valley,

near banding site, from 4 Dec. 90 to 16 Dec. 90. (5) Bairnsdale, Vic. on 24 May 91, 1 051 km SW. (6) in Clarence valley, near banding site on 9 Mar. 92.

- (b) 100-71975, Nestling banded by D. J. Geering at Lawrence, NSW on 5 Jan. 89. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at: (1) near banding site on 24 Mar. 89. (2) Edithvale, Vic. on 28 Aug. 89, 1 201 km SW. (3) various locations in Clarence valley, including banding site, from 27 Dec. 89 to 16 Apr. 90. (4) Portland, Vic. on 6 July 90, 1 445 km SW.
- (c) 100-73011, Nestling banded by D. J. Geering at Junction Hill near Grafton, NSW on 13 Jan. 90. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at: (1) Seaham, NSW on 30 Nov. 90, 354 km SSW. (2) various locations in Clarence valley, including banding site, from 27 Dec. 90 to 21 Feb. 91. (3) Shoalhaven Heads, NSW on 10 Nov. 91. (4) Seaham, NSW on 13 Nov. 91, 354 km SSW. (5) banding site on 3 Dec. 91.

Great Egret *Egretta alba*

- 110-60313, Nestling banded by D. J. Geering at Lawrence, NSW on 26 Dec. 89. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at: (1) on ninety occasions at Wards River, near Gloucester, NSW from 12 May 90 to 20 Oct. 90. (2) on twenty occasions at Seaham, NSW from 5 Nov. 90 to 31 Dec. 90, 374 km S.